



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

The Campaign of Magenta and Solferino (1859). By Colonel H. C. WYLLY, C.B. [Special Campaign Series, No. 4.] (London: Swan Sonnenschein and Company; New York: The Macmillan Company. 1907. Pp. xvi, 237.)

COLONEL WYLLY gives with scarcely a superfluous word a well digested account of what has been called this "short and brilliant but lucky campaign" in which France and Sardinia in five weeks of actual hostilities broke the power of Austria. Space forbids more than the briefest selection of instructive points to be noted. The story embraces the battles of Magenta and Solferino, with the three combats of Montebello, Palestro, and Melignano. The theatre of battle was the valley of the Po, and the commanders were the French emperor, Napoleon III., with General La Marmora commanding the Sardinian divisions, and the Austrian Count Gyulai.

The war became inevitable on January 1, 1859, when Napoleon said to the Austrian ambassador at his official reception, "Je regrette que les relations entre nous soient si mauvaises." On April 23 Austria demanded that Piedmont should agree to disarm within three days, which ultimatum was rejected.

The French soon concentrated 105,911 men with 264 guns supported by 56,629 Sardinians and Italians with ninety guns, a total of 162,540 men with 354 guns. The French were all regular troops and were organized in five corps. The Sardinians were organized in five divisions, largely composed of new troops. The Austrian army was at first composed of 160,000 men with 442 guns, organized in seven corps. Both sides were armed with rifles, about equivalent to our Springfield rifled musket, of calibre 58, and their artillery was, like ours in the Civil War, a mixture of smooth bores and rifles. The country is described as one closely cultivated—vines, corn, and rice, intersected by many irrigation channels. It was like one vast orchard, planted closely with young fruit trees impeding the view in every direction. Villages were numerous, and each one had its cemetery beside it—square enclosures with stone walls, eight to fifteen feet high, entered by iron gates with grated openings on each side. Roads were of three classes, postal, provincial, and communal, the first excellent, the second good, the last impassable in bad weather.

As the Austrians were nearest to the field they were first on the ground and had the privilege of initiating the offensive. On May 20 an Austrian, General Stadion, with six brigades of about 22,500 men, taken from four separate divisions, was sent to occupy Montebello, a village some twenty miles east of Alexandria. Here he was attacked and defeated by General Forey, with 8,400 men. Stadion was over cautious and did not engage his reserves, which all belonged to different corps. The French never lost the *morale* inspired by this action, but on May 30 crossed the Sessia river on the enemy's extreme right and

defeated him in the combat at Palestro, with the loss of seven guns and 2,118 men, the allies losing but 601, having made a surprise of their crossing. On June 4 the battle of Magenta was fought, the Austrians making the attack a day too soon, believing the enemy less concentrated than was the fact. They were defeated with the loss of 10,726 killed, wounded, and missing. The loss of the allies was but 4,586. The forces engaged and casualty percentages were: Austrians, 61,618 men, 176 guns. Loss 17.4 per cent. Allies, 48,090 men, 87 guns. Loss 9.5 per cent. Some of the fighting over the villages was very severe. The village of Ponta Vecchio was taken and retaken six times. Had the Austrians postponed their attack a single day, their superiority of force would have been 45,000 men and 296 guns.

After this battle the Austrians withdrew behind the Mincio river and reorganized and increased their army by two corps. Count Gyulai was superseded, and Count Wimpffen and Count Schlick commanded the two armies now formed, the Emperor of Austria coming to the field and taking supreme command. The French also added a sixth corps to their army, under Prince Napoleon, but it was not engaged in subsequent battles. At Melignano on June 8, before crossing the Mincio, the Austrians, retreating slowly from Magenta, were overtaken and lost 1,474 men, to 851 lost by the allies, in a very severe combat prolonged until ended by night and a violent rain-storm. It was an unnecessary fight on the part of Austria.

On June 23 Austria recrossed the Mincio and was defeated on the twenty-fourth at Solferino, which ended the campaign, an armistice being signed August 8, and the treaty of Villa Franca in November. Solferino brought together the largest forces assembled in Europe since the battle of Prague. Austria had on the field 189,648 men and 752 guns. Her casualties were 21,737 or 11.5 per cent. The French had 118,019 men and 432 guns; the Italians 55,584 men and 90 guns; casualties 17,191, or 10 per cent. The Austrians and French were organized in corps, the Italians in divisions, which were found objectionable as not favoring concentration. The allies captured two colors, thirty guns, and 6,000 prisoners, but made no pursuit. The Austrians had four generals wounded; the French five, of whom two died; and the Italians two, of whom one died.

It is suggestive of both Chancellorsville and the Wilderness to read of the rumored approach during the battle of certain "mythical men from Mantua". During our Civil War rumor played a similar part on both of those occasions.

E. P. ALEXANDER.

A Historical Geography of the British Colonies. Volume VI. *Australasia.* By J. D. ROGERS. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1907. Pp. viii, 308, iv, 132.)

OPINION undoubtedly differs as to what constitutes a historical geography; indeed the question has already (*AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*,